

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A video system for presenting content from a content provider to a user, comprising:

5                   a tuner configured to select a program from a plurality of programs, wherein the tuner outputs the selected program at an analog output when the selected program is represented by an analog signal;

10                  an analog output port coupled to the analog output of the tuner, wherein the analog output port is configured to be connectable to a storage device to record the selected program represented by an analog signal;

15                  an analog signal processing circuit coupled to the analog output of the tuner to receive the analog signal representing the selected program from the tuner and to generate a digital representation of the analog signal;

20                  a first interface module configured to be connectable to the storage device to receive recorded programs from the storage device; and

25                  an overlay module coupled to the analog signal processing circuit and to the first interface module, the overlay module configured to selectively overlay information to a program received from one of the analog signal processing circuit and the first interface module.

2. The system of Claim 1, further comprising an encoder coupled to the overlay module and connectable to a display device for presenting the selected program to a user.

3. The system of Claim 2, wherein the analog output port and the first interface module are configured to couple to the storage device in a parallel manner so that a selected program is recorded prior to overlaying the overlay information.

4. The system of Claim 1, wherein the tuner outputs the selected program at a digital output when the selected program is represented by a digital signal.

5. The system of Claim 4, wherein the first interface module is part of a digital signal processing circuit, wherein the digital signal processing circuit further includes a decoder coupled to be selectively in communication with the first interface module and the digital output of the tuner, wherein the decoder is configured to decompress the digital signal representing the selected program received from the digital output of the tuner, and to decompress a digital signal representing a recorded program received from the storage device via the first interface module.

10 6. The system of Claim 1, wherein the storage device is included within a digital video recorder, and wherein the digital video recorder is coupled to the analog output port and to the first interface module.

15 7. The system of Claim 6, wherein the digital video recorder includes a video digitizer and an encoder that convert the analog signal representing the selected program into a compressed, digital signal, and wherein the digital video recorder further includes a storage medium that records the compressed, digital signal representing the selected program.

20 8. The system of Claim 6, wherein the tuner outputs the selected program at a digital output when the selected program is represented by a digital signal.

25 9. The system of Claim 8, wherein the digital video recorder further includes a second interface module in communication with the first interface module, and wherein the second interface module of the digital video recorder is configured to receive digital signals from the first interface module for recording on the storage medium and to retrieve recorded programs from the storage medium.

30 10. The system of Claim 9, wherein the digital video recorder further includes a video data stream manager coupled between the encoder, the interface module and the storage medium, and wherein the video data stream manager controls access to the storage medium.

11. A method of presenting content from a content provider to a user, comprising:

selecting a program from a plurality of programs;

5 outputting the selected program at an analog output if the selected program is represented by an analog signal;

providing the analog signal that represents the selected program at an analog output port to which a storage device is connectable for recording the selected program on the storage device;

10 converting the analog signal to a digital representation of the analog signal; and

overlays information to a selected one of a program represented by the analog signal, and a recorded program retrievable from the storage device.

15 12. The method of Claim 11, further comprising formatting the selected program and the overlay information for presentation to a user.

13. The method of Claim 11, further comprising outputting the selected program at a digital output if the selected program is represented by a digital signal.

20 14. The method of Claim 13, further comprising decoding the digital signal and a signal representing the recorded program.